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April 16, 2004

RE: UNITED STATES v. JAMES NIGEL BOSTIC

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today that VI age 33, of Las Vegas, Nevada, was sentenced by the Hon. William M. Skretny, United States District Judge, to 87 months in prison as a result of his plea of guilty to one count of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(A)(1)(unlawfully dealing in firearms without a license), one count of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(a)(1)(A) (in the course of unlawfully dealing in firearms transporting the firearms in interstate commerce) and one count of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(a)(5) (unlawfully transferring firearms to individuals who were residing in a state other than that in which the defendant was residing).

Assistant U.S. Attorney Joel L. Violanti, who handled the case, stated that between May of 2000 and June of 2001, the defendant, along with three females, unlawfully purchased over 200 firearms in the State of Ohio and then illegally transferred and sold them in the Buffalo, New York area. Because of the number of firearms involved, which were sold in high crime areas and eventually used during and in relation to other crimes, the Court, upon motion by the government, granted an upward departure of the defendant's sentencing range. Such a departure enhanced the defendant's sentence from 46 months to 87 months incarceration to be followed by a 3 year period of supervised release.

The case was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, under the direction of Resident Agent in Charge David P. DeJoe, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Career Criminal Task Force, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter J. Ahearn, and various members of the Buffalo Municipal Housing and Buffalo Police Departments.

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